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Committee for Programme and Coordination
Forty-fourth session
7 June to 2 July 2004
Agenda item 8
Adoption of the report of the Committee on the work of its forty-fourth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation

(Item 3 (c))

Triennial review of implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-first session on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme

1. At its third meeting, on 7 June 2004, the Committee considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the triennial review of implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-first session on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme (E/AC.51/2004/5 and Corr.1).

2. The representative of OIOS introduced the report and responded jointly with the Director of the Population Division of the United Nations Secretariat to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Appreciation was expressed for the frank and forthcoming analysis provided in the report. The progress made by the Population Division in the use of interdisciplinary approaches to population issues was appreciated and its collaboration with partners, such as the United Nations Statistics Division and the regional commissions, was commended. In that context, the need for stronger cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund was stressed. The existence of

04-39559 (E) 220604

linkages between demographic research and data collection and monitoring the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals was emphasized. Support was expressed for the OIOS finding (see para. 25 on the implementation of Committee recommendation 9 (c)) that further work should be conducted on the complex interaction of population dynamics and poverty. The question was raised of the relevance of population programmes to human security. Concern was expressed over the lack of implementation of recommendation 9 on disaggregating urban projection by sex and age, and it was stressed that appropriate resources should have been sought to implement that recommendation. Note was made of the assessment that the impact of the restructuring in the regional commissions had had mixed results.

4. The view was expressed that since population issues were closely linked to such economic and social issues as health and sanitation and the status of women, on which human security placed great emphasis, the promotion of human security was crucially important in the programme on population.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. **The Committee recommended approval of the conclusion of the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-first session on the in-depth evaluation of the population programme (E/AC.51/2004/5 and Corr.1).**

6. **The Committee acknowledged the importance of the collection, accumulation and analysis of basic country data for any population strategies, especially for the evaluation of achievements towards the Millennium Development Goals.**

7. **The Committee welcomed the Population Division's cooperation with the Statistics Division, the regional commissions and other international and regional bodies to ensure that it had access to the latest reliable data available, and encouraged the Division to further strengthen its cooperation mechanism.**